[President]

exactly the progress that has been made from the last budget time up to now, and what is proposed to be done during the next six months. That will be prepared in the course of a fortnight and published for the information of the honourable members of the two Houses. I think the questions are quite legitimate and I must say that I share the disappointment which has been voiced by the honourable members of this House that the work of the department has not been speeded up as was expected especially in the matter of rural communications. In order that the matter may be expedited and kept prominently in view, I have directed that a complete list be prepared of what has been done after the last budget time and what is proposed to be done during the rest of the year and also what is going to be done next year. And I want the Department to remember that this disappointment which has been voiced by the Head of the Administration is a legitimate one and that the Head of the Government is really sorry that such questions should have been raised and that an occasion should have arisen for such questions to be asked.

Perumchillai Thodu.

540. *MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR (*Vaikom* cum *Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether any estimate has been prepared for the deepening of the Perumchillai Thodu in Vaikom?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: Yes.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR: May I know from the member the cost of the scheme as per the estimate that has been prepared?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: The estimate prepared under the irrigation scheme is for Rs. 11,200.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR: May I know whether this work will be included in the next year's budget?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: This is a minor irrigation work for which the consent and the statement of the ryots have not been obtained yet. The Tahsildar has been asked to get it.

Tiruvella Market Canal.

541. *MR. K. A. MATHEW: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any amount was spent in 1120 for widening and deepening the Tiruvella Market Canal; and

(*b*) whether they are aware that this important canal requires considerable improvement to make it navigable?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know whether the Chief Engineer visited the place or whether he received any representation about the canal?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: That is a point on which I have no information.

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MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Tiruvella*) : Without having the information how can the member in charge of the department say that the canal is navigable ?

MR. K. K. KARTHA : A report has been received on the point from the Executive Engineer.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know what the report is?

MR. K. K. KARTHA : The report is that it is both an irrigation and a navigation canal and that the estimate is on the basis of an irrigation scheme.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI : The answer given was that it was navigable but the answer that is given now is different. Therefore I cannot understand the answer.

MR. K. K. KARTHA : A portion of the channel is navigable, but it is mainly an irrigation canal.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI : May I know whether the honourable member is aware that the necessity of improving the canal has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Head of the Department by interpellations in this House and by representation of various kinds?

MR. K. K. KARTHA : It has been brought to the notice of the Head of the Department on various occasions, but representations had also been received against opening the canal.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : By whom ?

MR. K. K. KARTHA : By the people on the sides of the canal, south of the Vaikom-Ettumanoor road.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : But we are talking about the Tiruvella market canal. There is no Vaikom there.

MR. K. K. KARTHA : I am sorry but my answers refer to question 540.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI : May I take it that the answers were given without due.....

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI : Sir, I object to such insinuations.

PRESIDENT : I have already said something about these insinuations. For the present we will ignore this and proceed.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI : The Chair definitely called up question No. 541 and the supplementary questions put were on that question. But the answers were on question No. 540.

PRESIDENT : Will the honourable member put the question again ?

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI : May I know from the member whether the necessity for improving the canal was brought to the notice of the department by means of interpellations in this House and by representations outside ?

MR. K. K. KARTHA : It has been raised on various occasions and a sum of about Rs. 30,000 has been spent on the canal.

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MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: On the basis of this answer, may I take it that the answer printed is wrong?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: Government are aware of the necessity.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: So, am I to take it that the honourable member who is in charge of the Department was all along answering without understanding the question?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: The question is not clear.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: Am I to take it that the answers given on one occasion "Yes" and on another occasion "No" were without understanding the question? Are we to take it that the honourable member in charge of the Department who now represents Government in this House is not aware of the real state of affairs?

PRESIDENT: That is rather uncharitable. The Chief Engineer has gone to attend the All-India Road Congress which has been fixed by the Government of India without reference to the sittings of this Legislature. The All-India Road Congress is meeting at Jaipur today and therefore the Chief Engineer could not be present here. So, if Mr. Kartha gives an answer, that is on his own information or inference. If further questions are asked on the next occasion when he is present then those questions will be answered by the Chief Engineer.

Deepening of the Commercial Canal and the Vadai Canal at Alleppey.

542. *MR. G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertalai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount sanctioned in 1120 for the deepening of the Commercial Canal and the Vadai Canal at Alleppey in Ambalapuzha taluk;

(*b*) the amount actually spent on the above account in the year;

(*c*) whether they are aware that easy traffic of loaded vallams in the canal was often rendered difficult due to insufficient depth of water; and

(*d*) whether arrangements were made for the regular deepening of the canals from one end to the other?

MR. K. K. KARTHA: (*a*) Rs. 3,590 for Commercial Canal and Rs. 5,250 for Vadai Canal.

(*b*) Rs. 973 for Commercial Canal and Rs. 3,731 for Vadai Canal up to the end of 10/1120.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No.

MR. G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: സർ, ആലപ്പുഴയെപ്പോലെയുള്ള ഒരു വ്യവസായികനഗരത്തിന്റെ വ്യവസായപുരോഗതിക്ക് ഈ തോട്ടുകൾ സഞ്ചാരയോഗ്യമാക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

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